

Request for a commend on Transnet's intention to dispose of two coaches at Salt River

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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Enquiries: Themba Monnye
Tel: 0212028700
Email: tmonnye@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 12802

Date: Monday November 19, 2018
Page No: 1

Final Comment

In terms of Section 9(3), 9(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Mr Kobus Volschenk
Transnet Foundation - Heritage and Preservation

In consultation with various stakeholders this coach was identified as of no heritage significance. The coach is in a very poor condition .

On the 16 August 2018, Transnet Freight Rail submitted a request for SAHRA to comment on its intention to dispose of two coaches at Salt River Rail Yard, described on SAHRIS Case ID: 12802. SAHRA assessed the information submitted by Transnet and inspected the site on 27 June 2018. Based on the evidence, all the coaches earmarked for disposal are in a poor condition as they have not been looked after and have been damaged due to fire, vandalism or theft. Transnet alleges that this was done by the members of the informal settlement adjacent to the Rail Yard who salvage anything that can be scrapped for cash.

Whilst Transnet claimed that they have done what is necessary to safeguard the coaches, the evidence that presented itself, contradict their claims. The coaches were left in the yard for years and it appears that Transnet did not conserve them and that is in all likelihood what caused the deterioration of their condition. Therefore Transnet's lack of initiative and plan to ensure that coaches are monitored on regular basis and looked after as per section 9 of the National Heritage Resources Act, No 25 of 1999 (NHRA), contributed to the current condition of the coaches.

SAHRA is deeply concerned that Transnet is not complying with the provisions of Section 9(1) and (3)(a) of the NHRA and it is not known whether this is through negligence or otherwise that has led to the poor condition of the coaches, Based on this, SAHRA has no objection to the disposal thereof.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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Themba Monnye
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Regina Isaacs
Manager: Heritage Objects Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/510814>

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.